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# Doctors of the Century

1995 marks the 100th anniversary of modern chiropractic. The California Chiropractic Association (CCA), on the occasion of the centennial celebration of chiropractic, has taken the opportunity to award the title of "Doctor of the Century" to those individual doctors who have made a significant contribution to chiropractic in the past 100 years. The doctors are being recognized for their stellar efforts to foster the growth of chiropractic throughout their careers and in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the public health and the profession of chiropractic. The following doctors have been presented by their society and acknowledged by the CCA as "Doctors of Century."

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 Garrett Cuneo, Hon. DC  
**Executive Committee Nomination**

Student Members of the Century have also been chosen by the student chapters. Those chosen have been selected by their peers as having made a significant contribution to chiropractic.

Betty McInturff, DC  
**Los Angeles College of Chiropractic**  
 T.J. Osborne, DC  
**Palmer College of Chiropractic West**

Patricia Connelly, DC  
**Life College of Chiropractic West**  
 Rocky Kemp  
**Cleveland Chiropractic College - LA**





# Putting History in Perspective

## An Interview with CCA President, Michael D. Pedigo, DC

**M**ichael Pedigo, DC vacillated for a long time between being an architect or a teacher before deciding he wanted to be a doctor of chiropractic. It was a good friend of the family, Huey Smith, DC, who finally talked Pedigo into attending Palmer College of Chiropractic. This was a crucial step for the future of chiropractic as Pedigo has gone on to be a significant force for chiropractic as President of the International Chiropractic Association of California (ICAC), a plaintiff in the Wilk vs AMA law suit, President of the International Chiropractic Association (ICA) and, currently, as president of the California Chiropractic Association (CCA).

Pedigo attended Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa and remembers his years there very fondly. Although he forgets giving his first adjustment he does remember the lessons he learned playing rugby for the Palmer team against major colleges such as Notre Dame, Harvard and Brown—and winning! “We used to wear buttons that said ‘Giant Killers.’ Playing on that team, I learned that just because you are small and the underdog, doesn’t mean you can’t win.” It was a lesson that served him and the chiropractic profession well later.

As well as being on the rugby team, Pedigo was a member of the ICA. “My father always told me, if you want to make a difference you have to be involved from the inside.” So, after graduation, with his father’s words ringing in his ears and his mentor Dr. George Anderson’s encouragement to stay active, he maintained his memberships—although his participation was a little lacking until he was asked to help the Palmer rugby team. The Palmer team needed help raising money for a trip to the West Coast. Pedigo agreed to help them out and went to the ICAC Board of Directors meeting where he requested funding. He felt, “They must have been impressed because we raised the money.” Shortly after this, at an ICAC convention where Pedigo wasn’t present, he was nominated and elected as ICAC Vice President. He was involved whether or not he intended it.

While he served as ICAC Vice President, Pedigo began seeing the problems the chiropractic profession faced and his interest grew. He wanted to participate so that he could do more to help. He ran for ICAC President and won. In Pedigo’s second term as President for that organization, Chester Wilk gave a lecture and talked about his book Chiropractic Speaks Out: A Reply to Medical Propaganda and Bigotry. It was all about what Wilk saw as the AMA’s attempt to destroy the profession. Wilk asked for volunteers in helping gather data and evidence to help prove the point. “That was the purpose of the original committee, to gather funds to fight the AMA’s illegal activities and collect the data to prove it,” explained Pedigo. Although there were five plaintiffs in the Wilk vs. AMA suit, only two were on the original National Chiropractic Antitrust Committee (NCAC), Chester Wilk and Mike Pedigo. “At the time, I thought it would be over in five years—it was seventeen years later before it was over,” announced Pedigo.

It was a difficult time for all the plaintiffs. Initially, it was hard to get support even from other doctors of chiropractic. The ICAC was the first to endorse the project, then the ICA and, two years later, the ACA joined the battle. “The support of these organizations allowed us to raise the funds needed to take the case to court.” Pedigo continued, “But even then it was twenty attorneys to two. And the opposition’s attorneys attacked from every direction you could imagine. They hired private investigators; they had medical doctors, radiologists and statisticians to review patient records; they looked at our tax records; if they could find something to embarrass us, they did. They used ‘no holds barred’ tactics. They even planned three depositions in three different places across the country for attorney George McAndrews on the same day. Of course, the court changed that, but our attorneys had to go to court to get it changed!” All this made it hard for them



**Michael D. Pedigo, DC  
President**

“**M**y father always told me, if you want to make a difference you have to be involved from the inside.”



# CCA Tackles Legislation

- 1942** CCA gained passage of legislation which included chiropractic in the workers' compensation act.
- 1963** CCA-HSF (Health Service Foundation) formed to negotiate chiropractic inclusion in all insurance programs.
- 1964 -**
- 1969** CCA gained chiropractic inclusion for some of the state's largest unions, including the Teamsters.
- 1965** CCA successfully lobbied for inclusion in the Medi-Cal program.  
The newly formed CCA-HSF stopped threatened exclusion of chiropractic from "auto medical" insurance.
- 1966** CCA included doctors of chiropractic into a bill that exempted doctors from civil damages in reporting child abuse cases to authorities.
- 1967** CCA co-sponsored the anti-quackery bill.  
CCA blocked an attempt to eliminate Doctors of Chiropractic from the workers' compensation program.
- 1968** CCA sponsored legislation which amended the insurance code to provide equality of payments to chiropractic doctors.
- 1969** CCA acquired the assistance of 20 California congress persons in submitting a bill to amend Medicare to include chiropractic.  
CCA supported the Radiation Control Act and gained the appointment of a chiropractic doctor to the certification commission.
- 1970** CCA sponsored the bill which allows Doctors of Chiropractic to incorporate their practices.  
CCA sponsored the legislation which requires continuing education of Doctors of Chiropractic for license renewal and give the state board disciplinary power over Doctors of Chiropractic engaged in unprofessional conduct.
- 1976** An amendment to the Chiropractic Act required that specific prechiropractic subjects and /or requirements be in accordance with the standards adopted by the Council on Chiropractic Education.
- 1982** AB 868 (Lehman) - The CCA Key Doctor Program was established to support the passage of AB 868 (Lehman) in 1982. The scope of practice bill passed the Assembly but failed in the Senate Business and Professions Committee. The intent of the bill was to specifically define a chiropractic doctor's scope of practice indicating which health care modalities he/she is licensed to perform.  
AB 3304 - Opposed by CCA in 1982 and withdrawn by the author. This bill would have changed the Medi-Cal law and, in effect, eliminate chiropractic.
- 1983** AB 610 - Signed into law in 1983. This bill allowed greater patient access to health records, as well as requiring exchange of health records, including X-rays, by providers. CCA amended the bill to include chiropractic doctors. This bill required medical doctors to release X-rays to Doctors of Chiropractic upon request.  
AB 738 (Torres) - Passed in 1983 and provided inclusion of doctors chiropractic in a health program established in 1980 which mandated that female students in grade seven and male students in grade eight undergo a screening examination to detect the presence of scoliosis.  
AB 1883 - Signed by the Governor in 1983. A CCA-sponsored bill, AB 1883 brought the chiropractic profession under the provisions of state law requiring a Certificate of Merit to be filed in a medical malpractice suit. This bill reduced the number of frivolous malpractice suits by requiring attorneys to consult with a qualified professional in the same health care field prior to filing a malpractice complaint.
- 1984** AB 2947 (Bane) - Signed by the Governor in 1984. This CCA-sponsored legislation gave Doctors of Chiropractic a fair opportunity to enter into contracts with health insurance companies and health care plans for the delivery of services to subscribers and members at "alternative rates of reimbursement" in delivery systems organized pursuant to the "insurance contracting" laws enacted in 1982.  
SB 1777 (Dills) - Approved by the Legislature in 1984. It authorized the State of California to become a self-insured employer with respect to health plans offered to its employees. CCA amended the bill to require the state, in organizing self-insured plans, to utilize as fully as possible the services of allied health care providers, including Doctors of Chiropractic, in delivering health care services to the employees as patients.  
AB 2634 (Alatorre) - Signed by the Governor in 1984. It clarified the legal immunity afforded members of chiropractic peer review committees. This law gives necessary legal protection to doctors who review and evaluate, as recognized peer review committees, the quality of care rendered by their professional colleagues and recognizes chiropractic peer review as an effective self-policing of the profession by its members.  
AB 3791 (Isenberg) - Signed by the Governor in 1984. It imposed criminal sanctions for violation of the law giving patients access to their own medical records. CCA supported this bill because of problems Doctors of Chiropractic encounter in obtaining the transfer of X-rays and other medical records from some physicians.
- 1985** SB 98 (Rosenthal) - Signed in 1985. This bill amended the workers' compensation law to permit the injured worker to see his or her personal chiropractor no later than five days following injury in the workplace.  
SB 522 (Royce) - Sponsored by CCA in 1985 that required PERS to ensure that every active and retired employee has the opportunity to enroll in a plan which provides chiropractic services. This bill was signed by the Governor.



AB 1409 (Johnston) - CCA-sponsored bill in 1985 which required compensation for lost time of all health care practitioners who give deposition concerning their treatment and care of the injured litigant.

SJR 9 (Rosenthal) - CCA-sponsored bill in 1985 which urged Congress to eliminate the pre-emption of state laws requiring minimum standards and other features of health care insurance. This bill was enacted into law.

**1986** SB 2183 (Carpenter) - Sponsored by CCA in 1986. It required adding a permanent chiropractic member to the Radiologic Technology Certification Committee. This committee establishes standards for the use of ionizing radiation in health care practices. The bill was signed into law.

**1987** SB 1642 (Keene) - Successfully defeated by CCA in 1987. This bill would have repealed Section 10176 of the Insurance Code which is California's "Freedom of Choice" statute. Section 10176 states that health insurance companies cannot prohibit patients from selecting the services of chiropractic doctors for covered services to be paid under the insurance policy.

SB 1642 became a rallying point for the profession as hundreds of doctors contacted their local legislators to oppose the bill. The CCA Key Doctor Program was instrumental in organizing this strong grass roots effort.

**1988** SB 2872 (Dills) - Signed by the Governor in 1988. This CCA-sponsored bill added one additional Doctor of Chiropractic to the Medical and Chiropractic Advisory Committee. This committee significantly impacts the chiropractic profession by recommending and developing policy on workers' compensation, as well as advising the Division of Industrial Accidents regarding reasonable levels of fees for physicians and surgeons and Doctors of Chiropractic performing services under Labor Code 139.

SB 2151 (Rosenthal) - Not signed by the Governor in 1988. This CCA-sponsored bill clarifies Section 4601(b) of the Labor Code and its procedure for requesting a change of physician by an injured worker. The bill provided a clear statement that the request for a change of physician can be made at anytime after the worker's injury.

**1989** AB 1891 (Isenberg) - Vetoed by the Governor in 1989 on the grounds that it was duplicative of existing law. This CCA sponsored legislation called for HMOs who offer chiropractic services to give "reasonable consideration" to written proposal for chiropractic care from Doctors of Chiropractic.

AB 710 (Floyd) - Passed through the Legislature but was vetoed by Governor Deukmejian in 1989. AB 710 would have subjected the Division of Industrial Accidents to the procedures set forth in the California Administrative Procedures Act.

SB 1672 (Campbell, W.) - Signed by the Governor in 1989. SB 1672 provides chiropractic doctors with injunctive relief in the courts against the unlicensed practice of chiropractic.

**1991** SB 1379 (Leonard) - Signed and became law in January of 1991. Clarified the 30-day rule for injured workers seeking to change their physicians.

AB 3324 (Hunter) - Signed and became law in January of 1991. Allowed Doctors of Chiropractic to have minority interest in medical corporations.

AB 2980 (Wright) - Signed and became law in January of 1991. Further protects patient records by requiring the subpoena to be delivered to both the Doctor of Chiropractic and the patient.

AB 3318 (McClintock) - Died in its first policy committee, would have given hospital privileges to chiropractic doctors.

AB 4216 (Isenberg) - Vetoed by the Governor, required HMOs who offer the chiropractic benefit to "reasonably consider" affiliation applications from chiropractic doctors.

AB 2044 (Bane) - Vetoed by the Governor, required disability insurers to apply the same conditions, limitations or restrictions on all providers of the same or similar service.

**1992** AB 621 (Bane) - Vetoed by the Governor, similar to AB 2044 (Bane), would have prohibited disability insurers from selectively imposing conditions limiting payments for the diagnosis or treatment of any illness or disability by type of health care practitioner.

SB 1165 (Davis) - Signed by the Governor. Requires HMOs who offer chiropractic benefits to give reasonable consideration to affiliation applications from Doctors of Chiropractic.

AB 316 (Epple) - Signed by the Governor. Established the operating conditions for chiropractic group advertising and referral services.

**1993** In 1993, CCA successfully secured amendments to the 1993 Workers' Compensation Reform Act which ensured the injured worker's right to chiropractic care in a managed care system, the worker's right to pre-designate a personal chiropractor, parity for payment between Doctors of Chiropractic and MDs, and doctors' ability to render in-office physical medicine services.

**1994** AB 1130 (Bornstein) - Vetoed by the Governor. This bill would have allowed judges to award reasonable attorneys fees to the non-prevailing party in disputes over medical liens.

AB 3783 (Burton) - Held in the Assembly Health Committee. This bill would have required health care service plans and other entities responsible for delivering health care benefits to accept all providers who meet the terms and requirements spelled out in health plan contracts. (Also known as Any-Willing-Provider legislation.)

AB 3132 (Katz) - Signed into law by the Governor. CCA sponsored an amendment to this bill which allows doctors of chiropractic to perform medical exams for California drivers seeking Class A or B commercial drivers' licenses.

**1995** AB 1152 (Bordonaro) - Requires all health plans and disability insurers to develop written policies to facilitate continuity of care for new enrollees receiving services from a nonparticipating provider. (Currently pending in the Legislature.)

AB 1204 (Gallegos) - Overturns an Appellant Court decision, Brun v. Bailey, which distinguished between fact and opinion questions. (Currently pending in the Legislature.)



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